

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 JUSE-00 SEC-01 /017 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/NE:KHSHIRLEY/LD

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P 102225Z MAR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 058409

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, NL

SUBJECT: DUTCH REQUEST FOR DOCUMENTS RELATING TO ALLEGATIONS AGAINST PRINCE BERNHARD

1. DUTCH COMMISSION OF INQUIRY MEMBER HOLTROP, ACCOMPANIED BY STAFF MEMBER LOOYEN AND HUIBREGTSE OF NETHERLANDS EMBASSY, MET WITH DEPUTY ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL KEENEY, DEPARTMENT LEGAL ADVISER LEIGH, AND OTHER STATE, JUSTICE, AND SEC OFFICIALS AT DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE MARCH 10. HOLTROP SAID THAT HE HAD COME TO WASHINGTON ON PRELIMINARY TRIP AND EXPLAINED BASIS FOR FORMATION OF DUTCH COMMISSION. HE SAID THAT THE COMMISSION HOPED WITHIN THREE MONTHS TO COME TO SOME OPINION, IF ONLY TENTATIVE, ABOUT PRINCE BERNHARD'S INVOLVEMENT WITH LOCKHEED.

2. KEENEY EXPLAINED PROCEDURES JUSTICE EXPECTED TO FOLLOW IN PROVIDING REQUESTED DOCUMENTS FROM SEC ALTHOUGH HE POINTED OUT THAT WE DID NOT YET KNOW WHETHER CHURCH COMMITTEE WOULD WISH TO USE THIS CHANNEL. KEENEY PROVIDED HOLTROP WITH COPY OF DRAFT AGREEMENT WE EXPECTED TO SIGN WITH FOREIGN LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND POINTED OUT THAT DUTCH COMMISSION DID NOT SEEM TO QUALIFY AS A LAW ENFORCE-
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MENT BODY. HE QUESTIONED ABILITY OF DUTCH COMMISSION

1) TO MAINTAIN CONFIDENTIALITY OF DOCUMENTS IN VIEW OF ITS OBLIGATION TO REPORT TO GON ON FINDINGS, AND 2) TO PROVIDE RECIPROCITY IN VIEW OF POSSIBLE US LEGAL PROCEEDINGS. HE ALSO WONDERED ABOUT EXCLUSIVITY OF COMMISSION AND ASKED WHETHER ANY OTHER DUTCH INVESTIGATORY BODY MIGHT BECOME INVOLVED.

3. HOLTROP STATED THAT COMMTSSION COULD MAINTAIN CONFIDENTIALITY AND WAS OBLIGATED TO PRESENT FINAL REPORT, BUT NOT NECESSARILY SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS, TO GON. HE WOULD HAVE TO CHECK WITH HIS COLLEAGUES AS TO RECIPROCITY HE PROMISED TO EXAMINE DRAFT AGREEMENT WITH VIEW AS TO HOW IT MIGHT BE MODIFIED FOR USE AS AGREEMENT BETWEEN DUTCH COMMISSION AND JUSTICE. AS TO EXCLUSIVITY, HE SAID HE WOULD TRY TO PROVIDE THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS A STATEMENT THAT COMMISSION WAS ONLY BODY INVESTIGATING ALLEGATIONS ABOUT PRINCE BERNHARD, WITH PROVISIO THAT DUTCH PARLIAMENT COULD, IF IT WISHED, FORM OWN INVESTIGATORY COMMITTEE.

4. KEENEY ASSURED HOLTROP THAT USG WAS ANXIOUS TO BE AS COOPERATIVE AS POSSIBLE WITH DUTCH. HE OFFERED TO FACILITATE INTERVIEWS BY COMMISSION WITH ANY US CITIZENS AS SOON AS COMMISSION PROVIDED NAMES. HOLTROP SAID THAT HE WAS RETURNING TO THE HAGUE SAME EVENING AND WOULD COMMUNICATE WITH JUSTICE EITHER THROUGH NETHERLANDS EMBASSY OR THROUGH AMERICAN LAW FIRM COMMISSION HE HOPED TO ENGAGE AS COUNSEL. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BRIBERY, US CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS, PUBLICATIONS PROCUREMENT, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE058409
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: KHSIRLEY/LD
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760091-0325
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760374/aaaacnkf.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <23 AUG 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DUTCH REQUEST FOR DOCUMENTS RELATING TO ALLEGATIONS AGAINST PRINCE BERNHARD
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, NL, (BERNHARD, PRINCE)
To: THE HAGUE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006